

S/N 10/092,481

Remarks

Claims 2, 5, 15 and 17-90 were pending.

Claims 2, 5, 15 and 17-90 were subject to a restriction requirement.

Claims 5 and 82-90 have been canceled.

The Election of Species Requirement:

In response to the election of species requirement, the Applicant elects: coupling tubulars using an expansion cone - the invention of claims 2, 15, and 17-81 for prosecution on the merits in the present application.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are drawn to novel subject matter, patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to reconsider and allow claims presented for reconsideration herein. To the extent that the present amendment results in additional fees, the Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge deposit account no. 08-1394. Unless stated otherwise, none of the amendments to the claims were made for reasons substantially related to the statutory requirements for patentability.

Should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Date: 8/25/03

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H-430410.2

Respectfully submitted,



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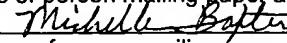
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DATE OF DEPOSIT: August 25, 2003

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